

NEWS RELEASE

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NEBRASKA HOG INVENTORY UNCHANGED

LINCOLN, Neb., December 28, 2005 -- Nebraska inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2005, was 2.85 million head, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. This was unchanged from December 1, 2004, but up 2 percent from September 1, 2005. Breeding inventory, at 350,000 head, was down 1 percent from December 1, 2004, but unchanged from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 2.5 million head, was slightly above last year and 2 percent above last quarter.

The September - November 2005 Nebraska pig crop, at 1.58 million head, was 4 percent more than 2004 but 5 percent below 2003. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 175,000 head, up 3 percent from last year.

Nebraska hog producers intend to farrow 170,000 sows during the December 2005 - February 2006 quarter, 3 percent below the actual farrowings during the same period in 2005 and 2004. Intended farrowings for March - May 2006, at 170,000 sows, are 3 percent below last year and two years ago.

U.S. HOG INVENTORY UP SLIGHTLY

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2005 was 61.2 million head. This was up slightly from December 1, 2004, but down 1 percent from September 1, 2005. Breeding inventory, at 6.01 million head, was up 1 percent from last year and last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 55.2 million head, was up slightly from last year but down 1 percent from last quarter.

The September-November 2005 U.S. pig crop, at 26.1 million head, was up 1 percent from 2004 and up 2 percent from 2003. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.89 million head, unchanged from last year.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.88 million sows farrow during the December 2005-February 2006 quarter, up 1 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period in both 2005 and 2004. Intended farrowings for March-May 2006, at 2.89 million sows, are up slightly from 2005 and up 1 percent from 2004.

Access the National publication for this release at: http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/livestock/php-bb/2005/hgpg1205.pdf

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